

Serial No. 10/824,500

Attorney Docket No. 01-619

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 were pending. Claim 26 is canceled herein. Thus, claims 1-25 and 27 are now pending. The applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-27 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Murphy, U.S. Patent No. 6,232,874 in view of Treyz et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,711,474 (hereinafter "Treyz"). The applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn for the following reasons.

Applicants note that claims 1 and 11 are amended herein to include the features of claim 26 now canceled. Claim 13 and 24 are also amended to include the feature of displaying information indicating that the prohibition state is active. Support for the amendments to claims 13 and 24 can be found in applicants' specification on page 9, lines 5-7 and in FIG. 4 and FIG. 7 (see, e.g. step 110 in FIG. 4).

As admitted by the Examiner, Murphy does not explicitly teach the use of a given function that accesses personal information of a user of the vehicle. However, as amended herein it should be clear that the claimed personal information is explicitly recited as being used for navigating the vehicle. To account for the deficiency in Murphy, the Examiner asserts that Treyz teaches the claimed personal information. Applicants respectfully disagree with this characterization of Treyz. Applicants also incidentally note that no specific evidence, in the form of a teaching contained in the references themselves, has been provided to show that one of ordinary skill would have been motivated to combine the references.

At best, Treyz describes the presence of information for requiring access codes. However, the information in Treyz is for obtaining notifications via email and is not related to

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navigating the vehicle as claimed, such as destination setting, map display, and the like as described in applicants' specification.

With regard to independent claims 1 and 11 the claimed use of a given function accessing the personal information stored to be used for navigating the vehicle permitted only after authentication process is successfully executed, is not taught or suggested in Murphy or Treyz alone or in combination.

With regard to independent claim 13 and 24, the claimed feature of displaying, during the prohibition state, information that the prohibition state is active, such as, for example displaying "VALET MODE," is not taught or suggested in Murphy or Treyz alone or in combination. It should be noted that the claimed feature enables both the authorized user to feel ease in knowing that the VALET MODE is currently functioning, and further serves notice to an unauthorized person that the protected mode is activated and actually functioning.

Accordingly, a *prima facie* case of anticipation, even if established cannot be sustained since the applied art combination is not properly motivated and fails to teach or suggest all the claimed features of independent claims 1, 11, 13 and 24. It is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1, 11, 13 and 24 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claims 2-10, 12, 14-23, 25 and 27, by virtue of depending from claims 1, 11, 13 and 24 are allowable for at least the reasons set forth hereinabove with regard to claims 1, 11, 13 and 24. It is respectfully requested therefore that the rejection of claims 2-10, 12, 14-23, 25 and 27 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

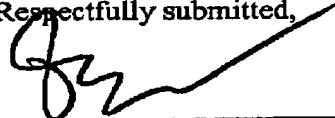
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In view of the foregoing, the applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance. A timely notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If questions relating to patentability remain, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone.

If there are any problems with the payment of fees, please charge any underpayments and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1147.

Respectfully submitted,



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